



Northern Community Mediation

Where The Solution Is Up To You

Serving Emmet &
Charlevoix Counties

BRIDGES

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ONE LAST HOLIDAY THOUGHT

If you missed seeing Board Member Julie Witthoef's editorial in the *Petoskey News-Review* on Monday, December 24, you need to read it. She reflected upon Christmases past—the memories, the loved ones still with us and those no longer with us. She said that “the magic is found in each person and it's up to each individual to tap into it.”

It seems that this is also true of life. Each of us can make the world a place of magic simply by extending our generosity, not through huge proportions, but by nibbling away at injustice and inequity. Just think what an impact millions of people could cumulatively make if each of us gave only 1% more of our time and money to help others.

GENERAL CIVIL TRAINING

It is not too late to sign-up for the General Civil Training scheduled from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm on Thursday, January 17.

CONGRATULATIONS

Mediator Adolph Cwik was one of two recipients to receive the 2007 Foundation for Life Care Planning Research scholarship. Way to go, Adolph!

REMINDER TO MEDIATORS

Do sign the consent to mediate form.
Do sign the follow-up form.
Do not sign the agreement form.

WERE YOU THERE?

Either Mediator David Searles has an identical twin or he attended the Kentucky-Florida State Music City Bowl game. One or the other appeared on television in the crowd of spectators.

ANNUAL MEETING

The time and place of the Annual Meeting has changed. It will take place at 4:30 pm on Thursday, January 10 in the City Council Chambers of the Charlevoix City Hall.

Another change is that the annual awards will be given at the Theatre Party on Tuesday, March 11 rather than at the Annual Meeting.

“In Any Two-Way Conversation There Is:

What you wanted to say.
What you meant to say.
What you said.
What you think you said.
What the other person heard you say.
What the other person thinks he heard you say.
What the other person thinks you meant to say.
What the other person feels about what you said.
What the other person says about what you said.
What you think the other person said about what you said.

Is it any wonder that misunderstandings are the most frequent source of discord?***

*From “FR. Mark's Remarks” author unknown

THE INTAKE PROCESS

Even though it often requires hours of time, NCM believes that a thorough intake process is essential to the quality of mediation services. Because of this, NCM staff gets equally as frustrated as the mediators when clients either show up late or do not show up at all. Just to let you know, part of the intake process includes sending out letters of confirmation as to the time and place of the mediation, as well as calling all of the parties involved the day prior to mediation as a reminder.